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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. 237**INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 23 Jan. 1951

SUBJECT Underground Arsenal in the Unsan-Puckchin Area

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1. Before driving southward, the main body of the Chinese Communist troops was concentrated in the Unsan (125-47, 39-58) and Puckchin (125-44, 40-12) areas, which were used as supply and reorganization bases. The retreating North Korean troops also used these areas for re-training, reorganization and supply points.
2. There are extensive coal mines in both areas, developed by American, Japanese and North Korean engineers. At an undetermined date between July and November 1950, the mines were converted into huge underground quartermaster supply centers for the storage of ammunition and other materials. The tunnels are equipped with electric lights and a ventilating system and are able to hold approximately 200,000 troops. The area is covered by rock formations and thick woods, making discovery from the air difficult.*
3. In mid-December, LO Jung-huan (羅榮桓), deputy commander of the 4 Field Army**, was directing operations from a headquarters in this area (exact location unknown). The area was then the center for a large (undetermined) number of Chinese Communist troops.

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* Comment. Possibly the mines were also used to conceal shipments of Soviet arms to North Korea before June 1950.

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** Comment. According to information available to this office, LO Jung-huan is political commissar of the 4 Field Army. HSIAO Ching-kuang is reported as deputy commander of the 4 Field Army and as commander of the Chinese Communist navy; and referenced report.

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